

Approved
D.K. to enter (30 sheets)
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MDC

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Allowed) A method of reducing noise in a transmitted signal comprised of a plurality of frames, each of said frames including a plurality of frequency bands; said method comprising the steps of:

determining a respective total signal energy and a respective current estimate of the noise energy for at least one of said plurality of frequency bands of at least one of said plurality of frames, wherein said respective current estimate of the noise energy is determined as a function of a linear predictive coding (LPC) prediction error;

determining a respective local signal-to-noise ratio (SNR_{post}) for said at least one of said plurality of frequency bands as a function of said respective signal energy and said respective current estimate of the noise energy;

determining a respective smoothed signal-to-noise ratio (SNR_{prior}) for said at least one of said plurality of frequency bands from said respective local signal-to-noise ratio and another respective signal-to-noise ratio (SNR_{rest}) estimated for a previous frame; and

calculating a respective filter gain value for said at least one of said plurality of frequency bands from said respective smoothed signal-to-noise ratio.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said respective local signal-to-noise ratio (SNR_{post}) is determined by the following relation: